

## WANTED AT ONCE SALESPEOPLE

4 Young Men and 4 Young Ladies at the Palace Millinery Store. Only experienced help wanted.

**M. LUCAS, Manager**



### POISON

A noted doctor says that wrong eyeglasses are worse than poison. Correctly fitted eye glasses are eye help. Your eyes will be examined Free of charge by **ARTHUR L. FINN, at the BECK JEWELRY COMPANY LEADING OPTICIAN**

### THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BEAUMONT

Capital Stock.....\$200,000  
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### BEAUMONT ICE, LIGHT & REFRIGERATING CO.

LIGHTING AND POWER

ICE AND COLD STORAGE

Plans Furnished on Application. All Orders Receive Prompt Attention

Main Office 380 and 382 Tevis St.

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PRODUCERS and SHIPPERS OF CRUDE OIL  
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Complete Equipment and all Facilities for quick deliveries.  
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THE POPULAR JEWELER  
CROCKETT STREET, BEAUMONT, TEXAS

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\$36.40 for Tickets Good Until Dec. 15th.  
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THROUGH SLEEPER LEAVES BEAUMONT 10:03 P. M.  
DAILY ARRIVES ST. LOUIS 7:05 A. M.

Fast Train Service— Buffet Library Cars— Dining Cars— Seats in the Cars— Free Chair Cars— Pullman Sleepers. Special Rates in all Summer Resorts.

Apply to Ticket Agent for full information, or address

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## PORT ARTHUR'S TRAGEDY

FOUR WORKMEN PRECIPITATED INTO A TANK  
OF BURNING OIL SET ON FIRE BY  
LIGHTNING.

ANOTHER WITH EVERY BONE IN BODY BROKEN  
ONE IS THOUGHT TO BE FATALLY INJURED

Cover of Tank Was Torn and Ripped by the Bolt and  
Was Thrown Into the Air by the Explosion  
Which Followed.—Victims  
Probably Cremated.

A phenomenal and horrible accident, which resulted in the instant death of five men and the probable fatal injury of one, occurred at Port Arthur yesterday morning. A bolt of lightning from practically a clear sky struck one of the Texas Company's tanks, causing an explosion of gas which ripped the roof off the tank, hurled one man to death to the ground below and dropped four others into a seething, boiling mass of burning oil, where they were probably almost instantly cremated.

The workmen were putting a shell roof on the tank at the time of the accident. A gang of twelve or fifteen had been at work earlier in the morning but shortly before the bolt struck, the force had been cut down to six. The sky was almost clear, and the sun was shining brightly when, at 8 o'clock, came a clap of thunder and a streak of fire. It was lightning, evidently from a small cloud apparently about five miles away. It is believed the bolt struck one of the men squarely on the head and was communicated to the tank through him. This was the man who was thrown to the ground.

Nearly every home in the city was broken, which could not have been caused by a thirty foot fall. His head was deeply lacerated and great gashes appeared in great places on his face. He was also badly burned. Immediately after the lightning the great roof, ninety feet in diameter, seemed to heave and roll like waves in an ocean storm. This was caused by the explosion of the gas over the oil. The roof was torn and ripped, part of it falling in great pieces out, slide the tank and part of it dropping back into the oil, which had ignited, carrying with it the four ill-fated workmen. At 6 o'clock the fire had been extinguished by drawing off the oil and pumping in water. The bodies of the four unfortunate had not been recovered at an early hour this morning because the tank was too hot to permit a hunt for them. It is probable, however, that they were cremated. The loss is said by Mr. W. T. Cushing of the Texas Company here, to be \$20,000.

Special to the Enterprise.

Port Arthur, Texas, Sept. 21.—The most terrible disaster that has ever occurred at Port Arthur, happened this morning when lightning struck one of the 50,000 barrel steel storage oil tanks at the Texas Refinery just outside the city limits on the west, resulting in the almost instant death of five men and the serious injury of another.

The threatening aspect of the weather for the past few days culminated this morning in a brief but terrible electrical display, during which one of the large storage tanks at the Texas refinery was struck by lightning. The tank exploded, throwing the roof high in the air and the oil set on fire, which has since been burning fiercely. The explosion occurred about 8:15 o'clock this morning. The shock from the bolt was felt all over the city, and a moment later the black smoke was seen arising from near the refinery. Those who happened to be looking in that direction say that the top of the tank was thrown high in the air. At the time the lightning struck, six men were on top of the tank at work putting on the roof of the tank paper and shells. Four of the men came down with the roof and fell inside the burning tank. The other two were thrown outside the tank and fell to the ground. One of the latter has since died and the other is most seriously injured. It is scarcely to be hoped that the bodies of the men who fell back into the tank will be recovered though every effort is being made to do so.

The ill-fated men, who were at work on the roof of the tank, were Frank Lawrence, Wm. Gough, Geo. Sales, Robert Cooper, Ernest Wuckash and J. F. McDonald, all being residents of Port Arthur except Mr. McDonald whose home was in Beaumont.

The bodies of Mr. Cooper and Mr. Wuckash, which fell outside the tank, were quickly rescued by their fellow workmen. Mr. Cooper was evidently struck by the bolt of lightning as nearly every bone in his body was broken, besides there are deep flesh wounds on his head, arms and hands, which must have been caused by the lightning. He was still breathing when taken from the tank, but soon expired. Mr. Wuckash had a hip broken and one hand badly mangled, besides being burned about the face. He was taken to his home in Stillwell Heights, where he is lying in a very precarious condition, though physicians say there is some hope that he may recover.

This is the first disaster that has happened at the Texas refinery. The resident managers are using every

endeavor to recover the bodies in the burning tank and are showing every consideration possible to the families of their unfortunate employees. The awful disaster has been about the only matter given any thought by our people today. The impossibility for anyone to do more than be being done or to in any way assist in recovering the unfortunate victims of the awful catastrophe is a matter of general regret.

When the explosion occurred, the roof of the tank was lifted ten or fifteen feet in the air and fell back, a portion of the roof falling into the tank and part on the outside. Only six men were at work on the roof when the explosion came, several who had been working there a few minutes before having gone down to the ground for various purposes. Of the six, four fell back into the tank with a portion of the roof, and were killed either by the flames or by drowning in the oil. They are:

FRANK LAWRENCE,  
WM. GLOUGH,  
J. F. McDONALD,  
GEO. SALES.

The other two men were thrown to the ground, a piece of the tank roof falling on them, almost instantly killing Robert Cooper and seriously injuring Ernest Wuckash.

Mr. Lawrence leaves a family of four, his wife, two sons and one daughter. He was forty years of age and has been a resident of the city for several years.

Mr. Gough removed to Port Arthur with his family, consisting of his wife, two daughters and a son, two years ago coming from Clifton, Texas, where other relatives reside.

Mr. McDonald's family reside in Beaumont, he having been employed at the refinery for about four months. He was thirty-two years of age and leaves a family of three, his wife and two children.

Mr. Sales had no immediate relatives here. He came to Port Arthur from Dubuque, Ia., last spring, he was about thirty-five years of age and single.

Mr. Cooper, who was about fifty years of age, has been employed by the Texas company since the company first began work here. He leaves a wife and three children.

Mr. Wuckash is about twenty-five years of age and had been married only about a year and a half. As soon as he was taken from under the tank roof he was carried to his home on Stillwell Heights, where he is being cared for. His right hip is broken, both hands badly burned and his head bruised and cut, but it is believed that there is a chance for his recovery in spite of the serious nature of his injuries.

The body of Robert Cooper was taken from under the tank roof and brought to Crowell and Gifford's undertaking rooms in town, where it was prepared for burial. The men who took him from the ground state that nearly every bone of any size was broken by the falling tank roof.

At the time of going to press the bodies inside the tank had not been recovered although all possible means to do so were being used. Unless the bodies were burned, they are at the bottom and as yet untouched by the flames, as human body immediately sinks in oil. Yesterday the oil was pumped out of the tank until the heated oil began to flow out and water was then pumped in to raise the burning oil away from the bodies. In this way it is hoped that the flames have been kept away from the bodies and that they have not been touched by the flames.

The tank struck was No. 18, with a capacity of 50,000 barrels, in which there was about 11 feet of oil.

### MAGNOLIA PARK

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Grand Concert  
Full Orchestra

--and the--

GREEN FIRE ILLUMINATED

HIGH WIRE WALKING

## When You

# ADVERTISE

As a rule you advertise to reach the people; not some of the people or some particular class of the people, but all of the people; not only some of the time, but all the time.

## TO DO THIS

it is necessary to use a medium for your

## ADVERTISING

that reaches all of the people all of the time; not only in the city but in all the surrounding country.

The following letter out of hundreds in this office we quote to show that we fully cover the field:



Leesville, La., Sept. 12, 1904

The Beaumont Enterprise,

Beaumont, Texas.

Gentlemen:--

You will please discontinue our two ads upon receipt of this letter.

We are highly pleased with the results and ask that you send us a bill so that we may remit.

Yours Truly,

Vernon Iron Works,

Wm. Jackson.



The Enterprise Wishes to  
Distinctly Assert it Has No

## FREE LIST

But it has more subscribers in South East Texas and Louisiana than any paper in the state of Texas can boast of.

If you are an advertiser and wish to reach the people of this section phone the advertising man and if he does not convince you, don't advertise. Both Phones 93